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Hello Coyotes,

Our first newsletter of the spring quarter is here! We continue working safely from home to provide you with our weekly newsletters. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Chronicle will not be producing printed and PDF versions of the newspaper for now. Our goal is to shed light on important developments in our community and to provide an independent platform for unheard voices. We want to hear from you! Reply to share your stories.

Stay safe, everyone!



Faculty senate held its first remote meeting

By ShaiAnne Cross |Fact Checker|

Senators and prominent guests discussed policies from a pre-approved agenda, questions on campus access, spring parking fees' reimbursement, and the possibility of grading all students as pass or fail. The meeting took place on April 7, 2020.

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Faculty senators consider temporary change in grading policy

By Karina Rodarte |Video Journalist|

Faculty senators discussed the possible adoption of credit/no credit grading system for all this quarter. COVID-19 has created new responsibilities for students that senators briefly parsed during the April 7 Faculty Senate Meeting.

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COVID-19 and college

By Hector Pimienta |Contributing Writer|

As of mid-April, classes at universities across the nation have been switched from in-person to online. It has been five weeks since COVID-19 has been officially declared a state of national emergency. A \$2 trillion stimulus package has been signed by President Trump as part of a new economic recovery program to help those affected economically by the coronavirus.

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How to make COVID-19 essentials

By Erica Garcia |Staff Writer|

With masks and other cleaning essentials becoming harder to find, why not make your own at home with items that are laying around the house? There are many items that you can make using common household products to ensure the safety of you and your loved ones.

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Panic buying in the High Desert

By Bertram Taylor III |Staff Writer|

The coronavirus had caused statewide panic buying in every county, and the High Desert was not immune to this behavior, especially in the city of Victorville. The panic, the hysteria, and all the toilet paper and water disappeared within hours of March 9, when the State of California issued a "stay-in-place" order. Stores rushed to fill their shelves as panicked buyers rushed in to buy everything they could.

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Pro-choice advocates discussion to continue through online platforms

By Sydney Fregozo |Managing Editor|

The spread of COVID-19 has pushed people in office to enforce orders that require people to practice social distancing and only go out in public for essential services. One of these services, abortion, has been deemed by many states, such as Texas, to not be an essential service and many clinics are either being shut down or are denied funds to perform the procedure.

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Faculty senate held its first remote meeting

APRIL 15, 2020 BY SHAIANNE CROSS — LEAVE A COMMENT

Senators and prominent guests discussed policies from a pre-approved agenda, questions on campus access, spring parking fees' reimbursement, and the possibility of grading all students as pass or fail.

The meeting took place on April 7, 2020.



Senators and guests met via Zoom.

President Morales did not participate. Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Shari McMahan, and Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs and Development, Seval Yildirim, along with the deans of various colleges, were in attendance.

Senators and other meeting participants struggled to unmute and mute the microphone for when they were to speak. Quite often, the screen glitched making it difficult at times to hear when a Senator was speaking.

"The technical issues throughout the meeting were as simple as muting/unmuting a mic! I was frustrated when there was a good discussion playing out and someone accidentally went mute. There were long periods of times when the discussions had to stop and tell them to just click the space bar to unmute themselves," shared a student journalist in attendance, Karina Rodarte.

The pre-approved agenda was given before the meeting to help the senators and guests follow the discussion.

Whether or not to keep the language in a policy that was up for approval was heavily discussed.

In the policy, there was language that stated that interim chairs would not have voting privileges in the department that was not their own.

Senator Lasisi Ajayi expressed wanting to strike this language and, instead, give voting privileges to chairs in departments that were not their own.

Senator Davida Fischman, Senator Dorothy Chen-Maynard, Senator Rong-Chen, and Senator Jill Vassilakos-Long argued against wanting to change the language in the policy.

"Voting is not a thank you gift," said Senator Vassilakos-Long.

Ultimately, it was voted to keep the original language in the policy; chairs would not have voting privileges in a department that was not their own.

Senators conferred if, for this quarter, students should be given the option to choose to receive a pass or fail grade or letter grade.

"Can we legally do that?" asked Senator Mary Texeria in regards to providing the option for students to pick what grading system they want for this quarter.

Associate Students Incorporated (ASI) President, and senator, Adonis Galarza-Toledo emphasized the importance of thinking about students' home situations during this time.

"We don't know what our students are living through when they go back home and don't even know if they have a safe space for them to sit down and do their homework right, so I think it's important to remember those kinds of successes when making these decisions," said Galarza-Toledo.

The senators did not make any official decisions or motions during this meeting in regards to student grading during this quarter. The change to the grading system is still up for debate.

Senators brought up questions to admin and finance about parking for faculty and staff and students during this time.

"Is it true that faculty should not go on campus, let's say, to fetch something," asked Senator Rong Chen.

Doug Freer, Vice President for Administration and Finance and Chief Financial Officer, clarified that although it is recommended for everybody to come in through booth locations due to many of the campus entrances being restricted, everybody is free to go and park wherever they need to go.

"We're asking most folks not to come to the campus, except if you really need to come pick up something. We're asking that you come in, but not to stay on the campus," said Doug Freer.

Senator Marcia Marx wanted to know how it will go for students who bought parking passes.

Freer affirmed that students should have or will receive a full refund for the spring quarter parking permits, as notified "multiple times" via the student Listserve bought for the spring quarter, if they have not received it already.

"If you do come across someone who needs our assistance, let them know that they could just call the parking office and they'd be glad to help them out with that," said Freer.

The next meeting will be held April 21, 2020 via Zoom.

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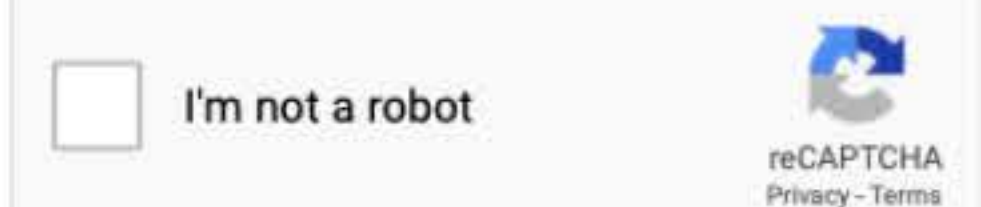
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Faculty senators consider temporary change in grading policy

APRIL 15, 2020 BY KARINA RODARTE — [LEAVE A COMMENT](#)



Photo by Citaly Carlos

Faculty senators discussed the possible adoption of credit/no credit grading system for all this quarter. COVID-19 has created new responsibilities for students that senators briefly parsed during the April 7 Faculty Senate Meeting.

CSUSB would join other Cal State Universities such as Fullerton, Northridge, Los Angeles, and Cal Poly Pomona who have made the temporary changes.

"Because of the unusual circumstances, we're looking at technological solutions. The student on the back end would be doing some sort of indication to us in the Office of Registrar whether or not they would rather earn the course as a credit/no credit or earn the letter grade in the course," clarified Vice President of Enrollment Management Rachel Beech.

Deputy Provost and Associate Provost for Academic Programs, Clare Weber enforced how the grading system would not change immediately into a credit/no credit system.

"We can't change the grading policy that we already have in place," Weber said. "It would require approval from the chancellor's office because an executive order of Title Five has to be changed and they're not going to do that."

Speculation of credit/no credit grades created concern as to how it can affect students in the future, specifically their GPA.

According to the Office of Registrar under Definition of Grades, receiving credit/no credit as a grade in a course does not reflect on a student's GPA, but it does show up on a student's transcript

"It's important we give our students the option to decide what they want," said Senator Laisisi Ajayi from the College of Education. "And I think it is equally important that we advise them about the potential problem with going to credit or no credit."

A student could benefit from a D+ because, under Definition of Grades, a D is passing as opposed to the credit/no credit requirements where it would be translated as no credit.

Ajayi explained how this can be applied to a real-life scenario.

"Many institutions and agencies require a specific percent or GPA. Many of the students may not understand now, but when they apply for M.A in some of these different programs, it may become problematic in the future," said Ajayi.

Students should also consider how the decision could impact receiving financial aid.

"One of the issues we learned in one of the meetings is for veterans, if they earned an F in a class, they aren't required to pay back their housing allowance versus if they earn a no credit they are, so there are a lot of nuances to all the various graded and options we're considering," said Senator Beth A. Steffel.

CSUSB student, Samantha Duran, suggested another problematic situation that can happen.

"I feel like one of the things to also consider is that students might take advantage of the situation and not take it seriously," Duran said. "It all depends on the students' situation. Others may be affected by the situation so, in the end, maybe it is a good idea to let the credit or no credit circumstances be present for whoever believes they need it."

Student Alex Tuc took a different approach to the idea.

"Life is not perfect and we must deal with whatever we go through," Tuc said. "In the end, it feels better when you accomplish something after going through something like this – COVID-19."

Tuc explained how he works 45 hours a week and goes to school full time. He believes people will not work as hard as they should knowing at the end of the day they will have an option to change their grades.

Before making necessary changes, the faculty senators are doing further investigation to offer the best options for students.

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Letter to the Editor: COVID-19 and college

APRIL 15, 2020 BY **HECTOR PIMIENTA** — **1 COMMENT**

As of mid-April, classes at universities across the nation have been switched from in-person to online. It has been five weeks since COVID-19 has been officially declared a state of national emergency. A \$2 trillion stimulus package has been signed by President Trump as part of a new economic recovery program to help those affected economically by the coronavirus.

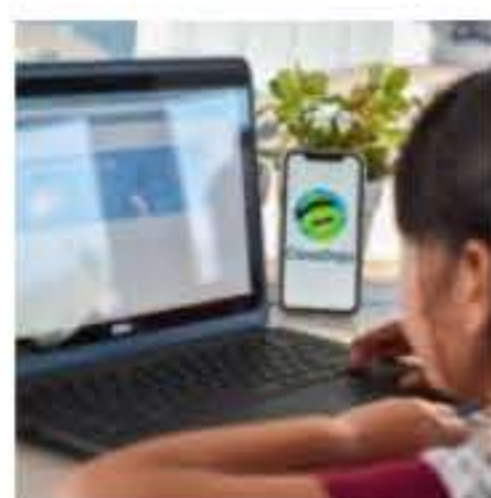
Stimulus checks starting at the base of \$1200 have begun to be sent to millions of Americans depending on their total income in 2019 or 2018. College students are feeling a mixture of fear and disappointment with graduation ceremonies being canceled or held online while worrying about the health of their families. Once optimistic seniors are now worried about the uncertain future as graduations are a few months away and no one is sure if we will even have a real graduation ceremony to make four years of back-breaking work worth it.

The main concerns students have reported about range from being concerned about their family's health and employment prospects to canceled plans. It is important for everyone to remember that this won't last forever. We have endured crises worse than this before, and we will again. We have survived 9/11, the H1N1 pandemic, the SARS pandemic, etc.

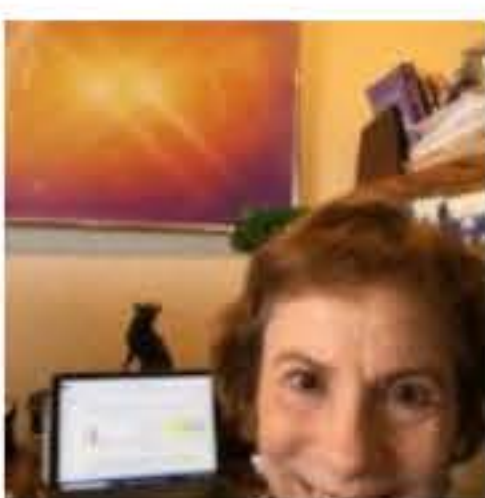
As Americans, we are a group of self-reliant individuals who come together to do what is best for our great country. President Trump, Vice President Pence, the CDC, and health workers all over the US are encouraging self-quarantine and other measures to help stop this pandemic. They are working around the clock to find a cure for this pandemic and updating everyone on the latest information.

As a student who is due to graduate this June, it is disappointing that my spring break and summer plans were canceled, but I continue to remind myself that it will get better. I can either complain about it or do something productive. The best thing we can do as a campus community is to stay inside, only leave home for essential tasks, and help each other out via donating food to those in need and praying for this crisis to end. In times like this, it is important that we put away our differences and work together as one because we are all in this together with the knowledge that we come out of this stronger.

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William says

APRIL 15, 2020 AT 4:04 PM

what is happening now in the world is God sorting out and allowing satan to take the lives of all the people who live for the material things of this world instead of living their lives for God and his son Jesus!!!!

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How to make COVID-19 essentials

APRIL 15, 2020 BY ERICA GARCIA — [LEAVE A COMMENT](#)



Photo by Angel Martinez Morales

With masks and other cleaning essentials becoming harder to find, why not make your own at home with items that are laying around the house? There are many items that you can make using common household products to ensure the safety of you and your loved ones.

The first thing you can make at home are face masks. All you will need are two rubber bands and a bandana or cloth. To start, lay the bandana or cloth spread out on a flat surface. Starting from the bottom, fold length wise up about two to three inches at a time until the entire bandana is folded together in a long strip. Next, take the two rubber bands and place them on each end of the bandana – about five inches in from each end. Fold the two ends toward each other and place one end inside of the other. Grab the mask by the two rubber bands on each side and flatten without pulling the two ends apart. Lastly, put the mask on and spread the bandana or cloth apart, if needed, to ensure that the cloth will cover your nose and mouth entirely. The best part about this is you can use your own cloth and make it personalized using your favorite bandana. You can even customize a cloth to make it more your style.



Photo by Angel Martinez Morales

Next, you can make antibacterial wipes at home to sanitize almost any surface. These will be useful around the house and even at your local grocery store to sanitize the shopping cart. All you will need are a roll of paper towels, one cup of rubbing alcohol, one tablespoon of dish soap, and one tablespoon of water. Cut the paper towels in half in order to fit an empty container you have on hand. Cutting the paper towels in half makes it easy to pull from the center once in your container and the other half you can use to make another scent, or for a specific part of the house or car. After you place one of your paper towel halves in a container, place the rubbing alcohol into a separate container and add the one tablespoon of water and one tablespoon of dish soap and mix all together. Next, pour the mixture into the container with the paper towel, ensuring to saturate the paper towel with the soap mixture. Once all the mixture has been added, close the container and shake back and forth a couple of times to ensure the paper towel is soaked completely with the mixture. When you want to use it for the first time, find the center of the paper towel and pull up so they can come out together and be easier to find and separate from the other pieces.

Although washing your hands is the best way to help prevent sickness, hand sanitizer is a great way to help in between washing your hands. All you need is 2/3 cups rubbing alcohol, 1/3 cup aloe vera gel and a couple drops of essential oil of your choice. First, mix the first two ingredients together and add a few drops of the essential oil of your choice in the mixture and mix thoroughly. Then pour mixture into a small spray bottle and you have homemade hand sanitizer. It smells great and works just as well as the one you can buy from Amazon.

With the COVID-19 pandemic making shopping for certain items more difficult to do, these are just a few simple ways that you can ensure you and your families stay healthy and safe using common household items before stepping out to purchase other essential needs.

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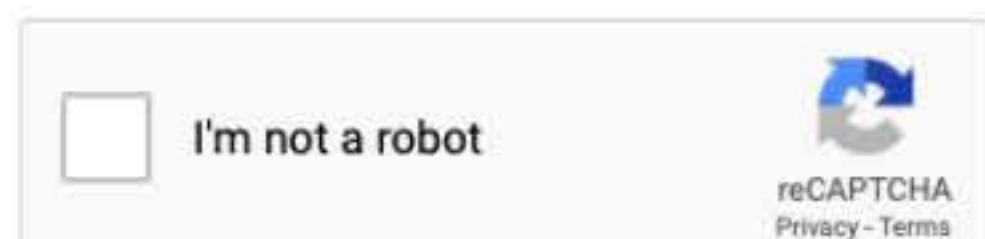
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Panic buying in the High Desert

APRIL 15, 2020 BY BERTRAM TAYLOR — 2 COMMENTS

COVID-19 has caused statewide panic buying in every county, and the High Desert wasn't immune to this behavior, especially in the city of Victorville. The panic, the hysteria, and all the toilet paper and water disappeared within hours of March 9, when the State of California issued a 'stay-in-place' order. Stores rushed to fill their shelves as panicked buyers rushed in to buy everything they could.



After two weeks of shopping for stocking supplies and food, citizens return and stand outside, in line, waiting to shop for another round of supplies and food.

Sara Santillan, a customer that went shopping that week, said, "The doors finally opened and we all rushed in. It was crazy seeing so many people grabbing things off the walls and the poor workers trying to accommodate everyone."

Stores started to take measures that first week to ensure some type of control by limiting their hours and limiting how many products can be purchased per household, such as one pack of toilet paper and one case of water. Fights broke out between employees and customers. Lines went around buildings that it took hours just to get inside the store.

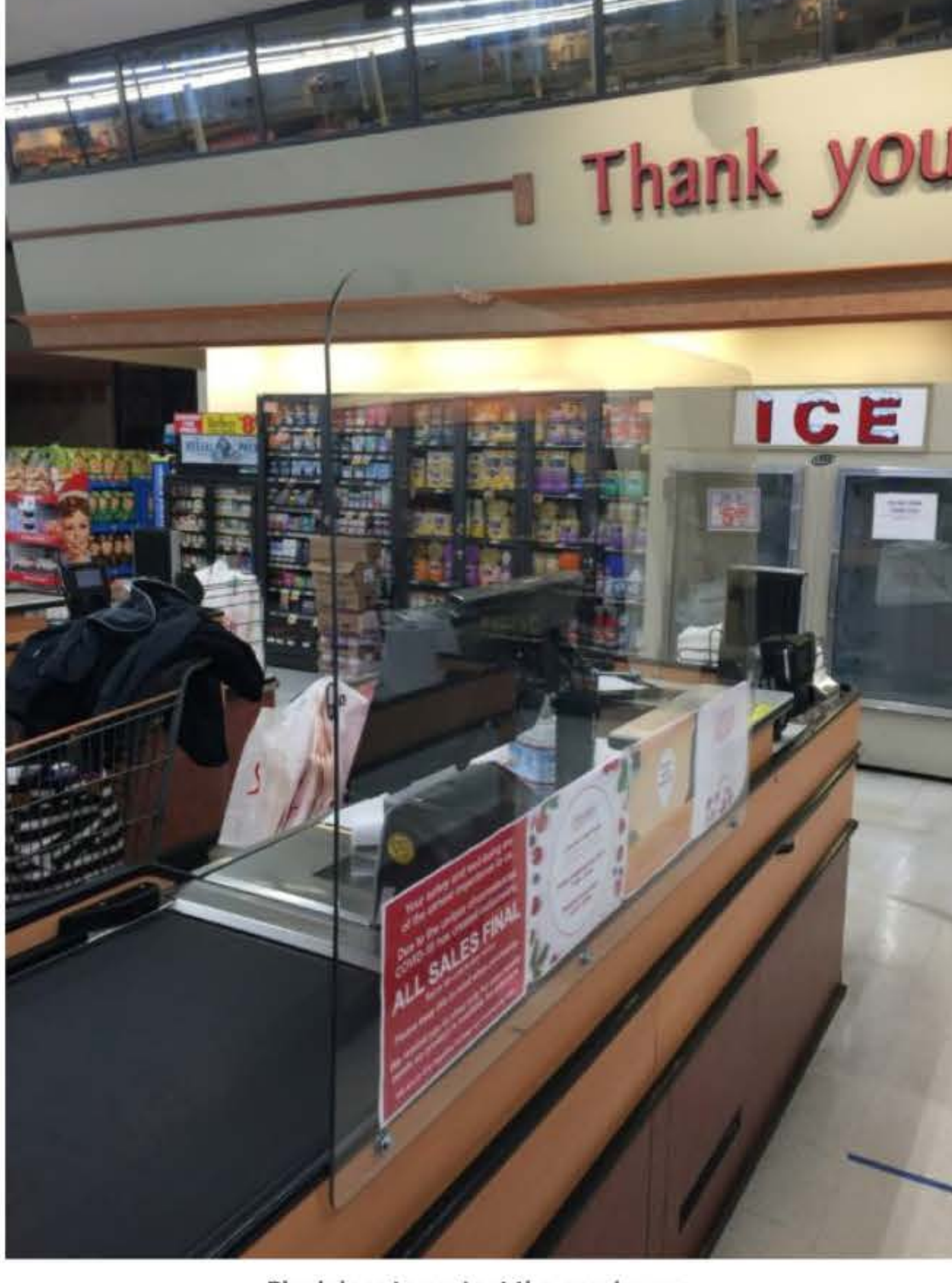


The toilet paper aisle was emptied out within a few hours.

Matthew Musharbash, a grocery worker from Victorville, explained, "I was losing my mind and was overwhelmed at all the customers coming in and going down the aisles while we were still throwing products up."

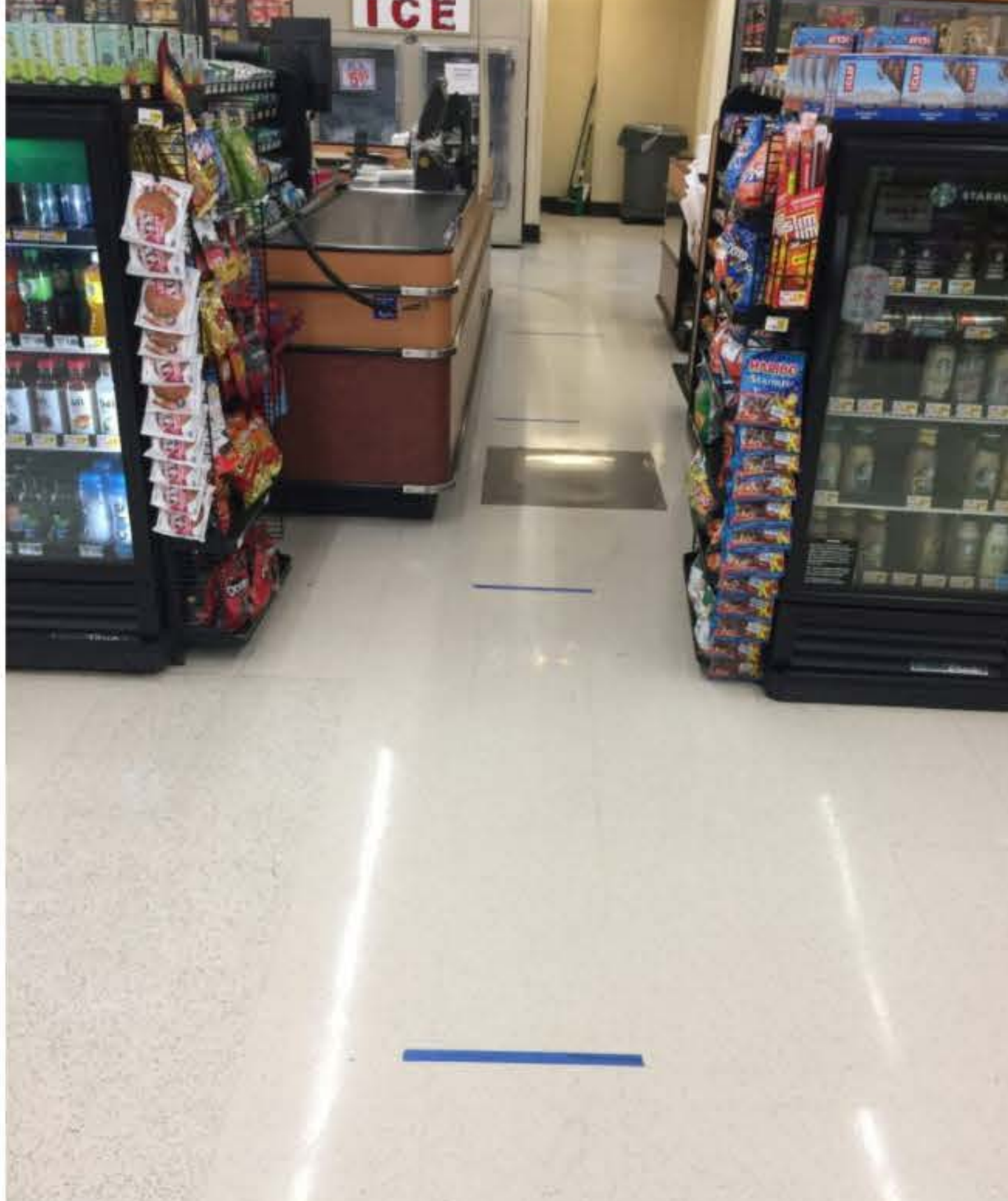
Grocery store employees started working longer hours and without protection. Some employees worked 16 hours a day to try to fill the shelves. Stater Bros., Food 4 Less, Costco, and many other stores scrambled to find help, going as far as to try and hire more workers, on the spot.

Melanie Fresquez, another Victorville grocery store worker said, "I was surprised by all the toilet paper and water they were taking. Everything was crazy for the next couple of days."



Plexiglass to protect the employees.

With no end in sight to the purchasing of supplies and food, the stores started to set up special hours for the elderly. One after another, the elderly were reserved an hour to themselves to shop without the rush of the younger generation interfering with their buying. First responders and healthcare workers received an hour of their own this week as well.



Physical distancing was also enforced by marking the floor with tapes.

It has been a month. The shelves are still empty in some stores. Costco is reporting that they are still getting toilet paper and water. Some stores are getting sporadic loads. The warehouses are trying to do their best. The grocery stores are going to have to take drastic measures by cutting down the number of customers inside the stores, putting tape on the floor to mark distancing guidelines, and putting up plexiglass shields to protect the cashiers.

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jmuhi says

APRIL 16, 2020 AT 8:36 AM

It's not like people have a lot of choices in some communities. Quotas need to be enforced so that all customers are able to buy basic necessities. Hoarding should be prohibited by law.

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Pamela Taylor says

APRIL 15, 2020 AT 7:41 PM

It's been crazy. I still have not seen paper towels or toilet paper back on the shelves.

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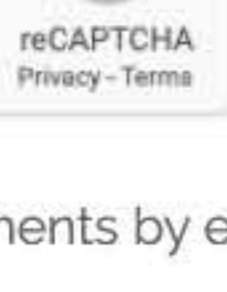
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Pro-choice advocates continue discussion through online platforms

APRIL 15, 2020 BY SYDNEY FREGOZO — [LEAVE A COMMENT](#)

The spread of COVID-19 has pushed people in office to enforce orders that require people to practice social distancing and only go out in public for essential services. One of these services, abortion, has been deemed by many states, such as Texas, to not be an essential service and many clinics are either being shut down or are denied funds to perform the procedure.



The short film "Grapefruit," directed by Mike Peters, had an online film premiere on April 7 to spark the discussion of a woman's right to an abortion and the obstacles she may face, such as being led into a fake clinic.

"My hope is to be a catalyst to encourage discussion," Peters said.

"Grapefruit" focuses on a young woman who is accompanied by her two friends to travel across two states to get an abortion. Many aspects of the short film were incorporated based on real life laws.



According to Heather Shumaker, the Senior Counsel for Reproductive Rights and Health of the National Women's Law Center and one of the guests speakers at the webinar, "We saw 25 abortion bans signed in 2019."

The current COVID-19 pandemic has further limited the access women to receiving an abortion. Grapefruit's depiction of the main character and her friends travelling across two states for an appointment mirrors the real life decision some women make if they are in a state that cannot perform the operation. State Senator of California, Heather Mitchell, gave an example by commenting that, "Three Texan women reached out to PP (Planned Parenthood) L.A. to schedule an appointment."

Ajia Munns, the lead actress of the short film, described the research she conducted before going into her role.

"Before going into this role, I had no idea about it," Munns said in regards to the fake clinic portrayed in Grapefruit. "It's not about right or wrong, it's about telling a woman what to do with her body."

During the webinar, a couple of speakers shared their own personal experiences with abortion. Munns mentioned that her sister received one and Jess Jacobs, another actress in the film, commented that she had one at the age of nineteen.

Prior to the discovery of COVID-19, advocates for abortion took into consideration the various factors that go into a woman's decision to receive one. One factor that was emphasized in the webinar was whether or not a woman had health insurance and if said insurance covered abortions.

"In most states if you receive Medicaid, you cannot use it for an abortion unless under extreme circumstances," said Ravina Daphtray, the Director of State Strategies for the All Above All campaign. "There have been thousands of restrictions introduced at a state level before COVID-19 and even still during this pandemic."

Despite restrictions being put in place for women to receive an abortion during this pandemic, individual cities are finding ways to assist these women. Houston, Texas has received approved funding to take care of people who need rides and lodging for the procedure.

Jacobs believes that mass media can have an impact on the laws that get passed.

"When we go to the movie theater, or when we turn on our streaming platforms, the opportunity for Hollywood to be a part of change-making is huge," Jacobs commented. "This is how we create a place to normalize the laws that will be in place."

Senator Mitchell shares a similar sentiment as she wants to see more of the lawmaking aspect of abortion discussed in media.

"We need a provider angle," Mitchell said. "To show the members of Congress. To show the policy-making. To talk about it as an access issue."

Discussions about abortion continue to be had in the midst of this pandemic, but the advocates who fight for women's rights to have control over their bodies continue to find ways to engage in conversation.

"We live in this world right now where we give more body autonomy to the dead than the living," Peters expressed. "Every woman should be able to make a choice about her body."

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